

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 14 are pending in the application. Claims 1 - 14 have been rejected. Claims 2, 5, 9 and 12 have been amended.

Claims 2, 5, 9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. These claims have been amended to address this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,687,735 issued to Logston et al. (Logston). Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logston in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,098,093 issued to Bayeh et al. (Bayeh). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention, as set forth by independent claim 1, relates to a method of delivering a message from a customer to a remote services system which includes assigning a message a unique identifier, transmitting the message and the unique identifier from the customer to the remote services system, saving a copy of the message with the customer until acknowledgement of receipt of the message is received by the customer, acknowledging receipt of the message from the remote services system to the customer using the unique identifier when the message is received, discarding the copy of the message when receipt of the message is acknowledged, and retransmitting the message when the receipt of the message is not acknowledged.

The present invention, as set forth by independent claim 8, relates to a system for delivering a message from a customer to a remote services system which includes means for assigning a message a unique identifier, means for transmitting the message and the unique identifier from the customer to the remote services system, means for saving a copy of the message with the customer until acknowledgement of receipt of the message is received by the customer, means for acknowledging receipt of the message from the remote services system to the customer using the unique identifier when the message is received, means for discarding the copy of the message when receipt of the message is acknowledged, and, means for retransmitting the message when the receipt of the message is not acknowledged.

Logston relates to balancing and dynamically distributing various components of a distributed application within a client server environment. In one aspect, Logston discloses a method of balancing the load of distributed application client portions (DACPs) across various server portions (DASPs) and server machines. Statistics are maintained by one or more software processes with respect to the available resources of the servers and their loading; new process threads and/or distributed application server portions are allocated across the servers to maintain optimal system performance as client device loading increases or changes.

Logston does not even disclose or suggest a remote services system, much less delivering a message from a customer to a remote services system which includes transmitting a message and a unique identifier from a customer to the remote services system, acknowledging receipt of the message from the remote services system to the customer using the unique identifier, or retransmitting the message when the receipt of the message is not acknowledged, as substantially required by claims 1 and 8. These deficiencies of Logston are not compensated by Bayeh.

Bayeh discloses maintaining session information among multiple clustered computers (i.e., a server farm) for servlets and providing those servlets with various session services. The session services are implemented using a plug-in servlet engine. The session information is maintained without using a persistent data store, to avoid performance penalties associated with storing information in persistent storage such as a database.

Accordingly, Logston and Bayeh, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of delivering a message from a customer to a remote services system which includes assigning a message a unique identifier, transmitting the message and the unique identifier from the customer to the remote services system, saving a copy of the message with the customer until acknowledgement of receipt of the message is received by the customer, acknowledging receipt of the message from the remote services system to the customer using the unique identifier when the message is received, discarding the copy of the message when receipt of the message is acknowledged, and retransmitting the message when the receipt of the message is not acknowledged, all as required by claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Logston and Bayeh. Claims 2 - 7 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason.

Logston and Bayeh, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a system for delivering a message from a customer to a remote services system which includes means for assigning a message a unique identifier, means for transmitting the message and the unique identifier from the customer to the remote services system, means for saving a copy of the message with the customer until acknowledgement of receipt of the message is received by the customer, means for acknowledging receipt of the message from the remote services system to the customer using the unique identifier when the message is received, means for discarding the copy of the message when receipt of the message is acknowledged, and, means for retransmitting the message when the receipt of the message is not acknowledged, all as required by claim 8. Accordingly, claim 8 is allowable over Logston and Bayeh. Claims 9 - 14 depend from claim 8 and are allowable for at least this reason.

Additionally, Logston and Bayeh, taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest a *remote services system* which includes *an intermediate mid level manager farm* having a plurality of *intermediate mid level managers*; the transmitting the message is via *a first intermediate mid level manager* of the plurality of mid level managers within the intermediate mid level manager farm; and, the retransmitting the message is via *a different intermediate mid level manager* of the plurality of intermediate mid level managers within the intermediate mid level manager farm, all as required by claim 2.

Additionally, Logston and Bayeh, taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest the method of claim 1 wherein the remote services system includes an applications mid level manager farm having a plurality of applications mid level managers, and *the transmitting the message is via a first applications mid level manager of the plurality of mid level managers within the intermediate mid level manager farm*, and the retransmitting the message is via a different applications mid level manager of the plurality of mid level managers within the applications mid level manager farm, all as required by claim 5. Accordingly, claim 5 is allowable over Logston and Bayeh.

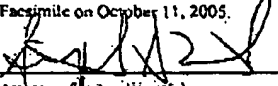
Logston and Bayeh, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the system of claim 8 further including an intermediate mid level manager farm having a plurality of intermediate mid level managers, wherein *the transmitting the message is via a first intermediate*

*mid level manager of the plurality of mid level managers within the intermediate mid level manager farm* and the retransmitting the message is via a different intermediate mid level manager of the plurality of intermediate mid level managers within the intermediate mid level manager farm, all as required by claim 9. Accordingly, claim 9 is allowable over Logston and Bayeh.

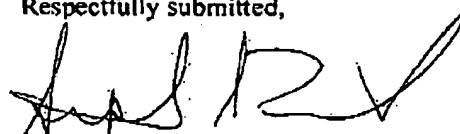
Logston and Bayeh, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the system of claim 8 further including an applications mid level manager farm having a plurality of applications mid level managers, wherein *the transmitting the message is via a first applications mid level manager of the plurality of mid level managers within the intermediate mid level manager farm* and the retransmitting the message is via a different applications mid level manager of the plurality of mid level managers within the applications mid level manager farm, all as required by claim 12. Accordingly, claim 12 is allowable over Logston and Bayeh.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS via the USPTO Central Facsimile on October 11, 2005.	
	10/11/05
Attorney for Applicant(s)	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
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